



*Ansul Incorporated
One Stanton Street
Marinette, WI 54143-2542*

*Tele: 1-715-735-7411
www.ansul.com*

DATE: May 10, 2004
TO: Mine Operators
SUBJECT: Linear Detection Wire Replacement Program

VERY IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

We have recently received reports in which linear detection wire has failed to operate when exposed to a fire or extreme high heat. Specifically, the suspect detection wire may not create the necessary short between its conductors to send a signal to the CHECKFIRE® control module and therefore may not automatically operate the fire suppression system.

Although the wire was not manufactured by Ansul and the number of instances is extremely small in comparison to actual system actuations, we are voluntarily implementing a program to replace suspect detection wire on a global basis.

The replacement program will cover linear detection wire shipped from Ansul between October 1, 2001 and March 11, 2004.

Our distributors have already been notified and asked to contact you in the near future to arrange for inspection of the linear detection wire on your equipment and in your inventory – **and to replace any suspect wire.** Ansul authorized vehicle system distributors have been trained to service CHECKFIRE detection and actuation systems including detection wire installation. They have received detailed information on the Ansul Linear Detection Wire Replacement Program including the identification of suspect detection wire.

In the meantime, we recommend the following...

- DO NOT disable the CHECKFIRE detection and actuation system or remove any detection wire from your equipment. If your fire detection system contains suspect wire, it has the potential to affect only the automatic feature of your detection and actuation system.
- Although your system may not contain the suspect wire, notify your equipment operators that they should consider the system MANUAL ONLY. In the event of a fire or a fire alarm indication on the CHECKFIRE control module, operators should follow proper vehicle shutdown procedures and manually operate the fire suppression system.

If you need assistance in scheduling inspection and service with an Ansul authorized vehicle system distributor, please contact Ansul Quality Assurance, Linear Detection Wire Program Administration at 1-800-906-3575 (US/Canada) or 1-715-732-3575 (outside US/Canada).

We are working quickly and closely with our distributors, original equipment manufacturers, the U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and other groups to help assure your equipment has the best and most reliable fire protection available. And you can be assured that this program will command our undivided attention until it is successfully completed.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.